

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 133

By Dixon

A RESOLUTION To recognize Frederick S. Humphries, Ph.D. on  
the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, It is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those citizens who in their years of work have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Frederick S. Humphries, Ph.D. is one such estimable person who has served with probity for sixteen years as the eighth President of Florida A&M University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Humphries is a 1957 graduate of Florida A&M University, and he received his doctorate in physical chemistry from the University of Pittsburgh; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his presidency, Dr. Humphries has worked to make Florida A&M University (FAMU) one of the nation's premier institutions of higher learning; and

WHEREAS, FAMU surpassed Harvard in 1992, 1995, and 1997 as the leader in recruitment of National Achievement Scholars, the best and brightest students in America; in 2000 FAMU tied with Harvard as the top recruiter of these students; and

WHEREAS, In Fall of 1997, FAMU was named the *Time Magazine-Princeton Review* "College of the Year"; and

WHEREAS, FAMU was featured as the nation's top producer of African Americans with baccalaureate degrees in *Black Issues in Higher Education* for three straight years (1997, 1998, and 1999); and

WHEREAS, Dr. Humphries launched the Graduate Feeder Program to increase the number of minority students attending graduate school; and

WHEREAS, He initiated the "Life-Gets-Better Scholarship" for academically-talented students, and he began a very creative recruitment program that has made FAMU one of the fastest growing universities in the country; and

WHEREAS, Frederick Humphries has planned for a legacy to the school upon his departure; the new College of Law will open in the Fall of 2003, and the university will offer new Ph.D. programs in physics, computer science, chemistry, and biology by 2004; and

WHEREAS, Frederick Humphries is an active and important part of his community and his profession, having lent his support to numerous boards, including the Commission on the Future of the South and the White House Science and Technology Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, He has served as a member and chair of the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education; and

WHEREAS, He is the recipient of a variety of honors: 1997 "Floridian of the Year," 1990 Thurgood Marshall Educational Achievement Award, and the University of Pittsburgh Bicentennial Medal of Distinction, to name a few; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Humphries has been honored with a tribute during the 2001 Turner Broadcasting System, Inc. Annual Trumpet Awards and with the 2001 Lifetime Achievement Award during the Annual Black Engineer of the Year Awards Conference; and

WHEREAS, He is the recipient of honorary doctorates from Vincennes University of Indiana and Thomas A. Edison State College in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, In a letter to FAMU Chancellor Adam W. Herbert, Frederick Humphries wrote, "It has been my honor to serve as president of FAMU. It has been a privilege of the

highest order. Every day that I have worked to move FAMU in a positive direction has been a great joy”; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Humphries will begin a year-long sabbatical on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July, 2001; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his estimable career, Dr. Humphries has demonstrated a remarkable ability to motivate others to reach their potential, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his peers and the students of Florida A&M University alike; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we extend to Frederick S. Humphries, Ph.D. our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.